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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): C. OKAMOTO, et al

Serial No.: 09/801,748

Filed: March 9, 2001

For: IDENTIFICATION CODE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Group: 2171

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

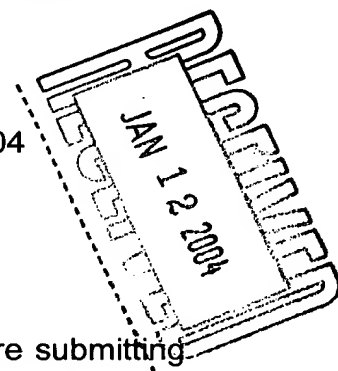
Technology Center 2100

MS DD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 7, 2004

Sir:



In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language version or translation of the foreign patent office report citing the documents.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.39847X00) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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